

NIC-8409/82

JMS

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

18 October 1982

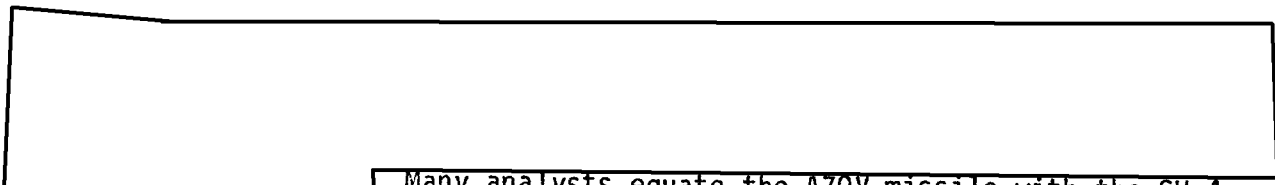
National Intelligence Council

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, WSSIC

FROM : National Intelligence Officer for Strategic Programs

SUBJECT : Status of the AZOV Missile ☐

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Many analysts equate the AZOV missile with the SH-4 ABM interceptor, which completed system testing in 1977. It is therefore very important to obtain as soon as possible an Intelligence Community assessment of the validity of the information and its association with SH-4. The DCI with members of the NFIB concurring, decided not to include reference to these reports in NIE 11-13-82, but directed that an Intelligence Community study of the information be undertaken on a priority basis. ☐

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2. It is pointed out that not all agencies which can contribute to this assessment appear to have the same information. We suggest that WSSIC call for all data on the subject from its member agencies and then circulate a complete data set to the agencies specifically tasked to provide analysis to WSSIC. No agency has to date published the results of studies on this matter, although, we understand DIA has such a study in near final form. This DIA study, even in draft form, along with its supporting intelligence information could serve as the basic input for a WSSIC analysis and report. ☐

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3. Obviously, if covert ABM deployments have indeed taken place, the situation would have very serious national security and arms control implications. I therefore request that your efforts carry a high priority and begin as soon as possible. ☐

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